

# Chamorro

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

September 28, 2018

## 1 Language Information

- Source: Topping (1973)
- Glottlog: <http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/cham1312>
- ISO-identifier: cha
- Speakers:
- Location: Guam, Northern Mariana Islands
- Geneology: Austronesian > Malayo-Polynesian > Chamorro

## 2 Nominal Morphology

The nouns have a singular and a plural form. The plural is marked by the prefix *man-* or by the plural marker *siha*.

## 3 Verbal Morphology

The verb can take the prefix *man-* if the subject is plural, i.e. 'three or more'. If the subject is dual or singular, this prefix is not used.

## 4 Conjunction

Chamorro has the following conjunctions: *yan* 'and', *ya* 'and', *lao* 'but'.

- (1) Ma'pos si Juan yan si Maria.  
?  
'Juan and Maria left.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (2) Hu li'e' i lahi yan i palao'an.  
?  
'I saw the man and the woman.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]

- (3) Kumakati yan chumachalek i palao'an.  
?  
'The woman is crying and laughing.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (4) Humanao yo' yan i che'lu-hu.  
?  
'I went with my brother.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (5) Humanao ham yan si Pedro  
?  
'We went - Pedro and I.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (6) Malago' yo' ni lepblo ya hu fahan.  
?  
'I wanted the book and I bought it.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (7) Enaogue' mañaina-hu mampos na'manman ya ti hu hulat kumomprende.  
?  
'That, my parents, is really amazing, and I cannot possibly understand.' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (8) Ya-hu hao lao ti ya-my yo'.  
?  
'I like you but you don't like me.' [Topping, 1973, p. 147]
- (9) Ti bumaila gue' nigap lao bumabaila gue' pa'go.  
?  
'He didn't dance yesterday, but he is dancing now.' [Topping, 1973, p. 147]

## 5 Disjunction

Disjunction is marked by *pat* 'or'.

- (10) Kao ma'pos si Juan pat si Maria?  
?  
'Did Juan or Maria leave?' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (11) Kao un li'e' i lahi pat i palao'an?  
?  
'Did you see the man or the woman?' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]
- (12) Kao kumakati pat chumachalek i palao'an?  
?  
'Is the woman crying or laughing?' [Topping, 1973, p. 146]

- (13) Ta fanmaigo' pat ta fanpasehu.  
?  
'We will sleep or we will go around.' [Topping, 1973, p. 147]
- (14) Para bai hu facho'cho' pat bai falak iya hami.  
?  
'I will work or go home.' [Topping, 1973, p. 147]

## 6 Prepositions

There are five non-Spanish prepositions in Chamorro.

1. *gi* location
2. *giya* location
3. *para* from/ to a location
4. *ginen* from/ to a location
5. *as* 'at a place'

The Spanish prepositions found in Chamorro are:

1. *desde* 'from (time), since'
2. *asta/esta* 'to (time), until'
3. *sin* 'without'
4. *pot* 'for, on account of'
5. *kontra* 'against'
6. *di* used as conjunction or subordinator
7. *kon* used as conjunction or subordinator, in idiomatic expression borrowed from Spanish

## References

Topping, Donald M. (with the assistance of Bernadita C. Dungca) (1973). *Chamorro reference grammar*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.